

INCOMING

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLASSIFIED

Classified

Control 1884

ACTION:
STOSSSEL
INFO:

MIN
MINECON

FROM: ATHENS

POL 5
ULMER

NO: 22, August 12, 8 PM

POLR
SHAFFEL

ACTION DEPT PRATT 258 INFO PARIS PRATT 22 AIRPARA 19
USSOCOLANDSCUTHEAST IZNER, MOSCOW 12

EUCOMIL
NAS

PRIORITY

MAAG
USIST

Paris for Stossel and McGuire

H 1
CINCEUR

EF
EF

1. Recognizing that Checkmate II must soon be scheduled
definitely, on abandoned, I met this afternoon with
Lord Juppert, armed services attaches and other chancellery
advisors to canvas situation.

ACTION:
POL

INFO:
OES

ECON
DEF 11

PAA

2. My military colleagues unanimous in believing cancellation
Checkmate would have adverse effect

27
DECLASSIFIED WITH DELETION:
Agency Case 280V395
NLE Case 25-31-4
By *File* NLE Date 12/24/65

4. However, it is my estimate that holding exercise in form
originally planned may now be seized upon and misrepresented
by Bulgarians and/or Soviet bloc as threatening or aggressive
gesture "deliberately made to increase tensions", which would
provide Khrushchev with first rate opportunity throw another
violent fit, should he desire do so. Closeness of area to
Bulgarian frontier and somewhat spectacular nature of operation
might lend some color to this.

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CONTROL 1684

6. Purpose this message primarily inform addressees that further Soviet explosion may well occur if exercise is held. That publicity has already taken place (Embtel 250) is now an additional factor. I am not competent to judge whether exercise might be shifted less sensitive area (Crete for instance) or held without US battle group participation.

BRIGGS

~~SECRET~~

vc